



(19) Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) EP 0 910 218 A2

(12) EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(43) Date of publication:
21.04.1999 Bulletin 1999/16

(51) Int Cl. 6: H04N 7/16, H04N 7/173

(21) Application number: 99100570.3

(22) Date of filing: 02.12.1993

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH DE DK ES FR GB GR IE IT LI NL PT SE

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(30) Priority: 09.12.1992 US 991074

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(62) Document number(s) of the earlier application(s) in
accordance with Art. 76 EPC:
94904392.1 / O 673 583

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Remarks:
This application was filed on 13 - 01 - 1999 as a
divisional application to the application mentioned
under INID code 62.

(54) Audio program reception terminal for television delivery system

(57) The invention relates to apparatus and methods for upgrading a set top terminal (220) for use with a cable television program delivery system (200). A hardware upgrade (130) or expansion card (130) is connected to a set top terminal (220) to enhance the functionality of the set top terminal (220) and to allow the set top terminal (220) to receive digital audio programs. The hardware upgrade (130) includes audio signal process-

ing circuitry such as a tuner (134), demodulator (136), demultiplexor (138), decryptor (140), and decompressor (142). A microprocessor (132) in the hardware upgrade (130) enables the upgrade (130) to accept subscriber inputs so as to select a particular digital audio program for listening. Subscriber inputs may be generated from a remote control (350,352,900) and a menu system of the set top terminal (220).

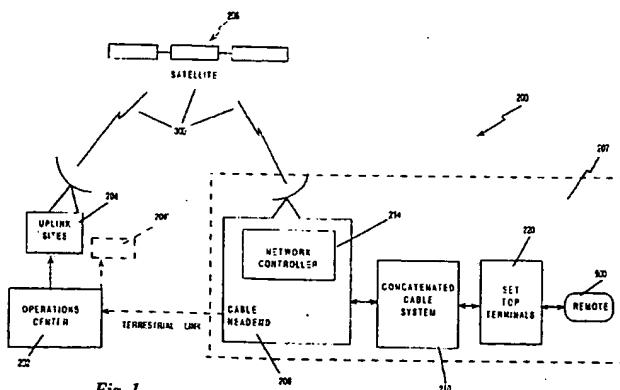


Fig. 1